4/28/68

Dear Helen,

Your letter of the 23rd arrived promptly but I've been too busy to answer. I've also had a mailing from Steffen in which he indicates he is bowing out. I hope not. What he sent is worthwhile. Please thank him.

Yes the investigation in New Orleans, meaning my own, is going too well. Garrison has no investigator competent in this kind of work, none with the requisite understand, and onlt one lawyer he can use that way, not quite full time. This is a considerable handicap that I cannot entirely offset, particularly because I must spend most of my time away from there. The work I leave behind is usually undone unless I can arrange for a few local friends to complete it. I have a rather exotic, too small but good little band working there.

And, unfortunately, none of the others working in the field who get or live there do any real work, for him or in the subject, now. Throughout the country-in fact, even in another one, I have a band doing excellent work. One of my major problems is getting enough time from the absolute minimum priority work that I alone can do to keep them going.

The problems of your woman friend, alas, are not unique and are not the hallmark of a free society. I have enjoyed them. Recently the neanderthals, as you know, took a fling at it, and I can see how it has quieted Bob. The CIA is now engaged in it. But, these awful people who so defame us all can do nothing else. It is a sign of their moral bankruptcy and our rightness.

Your friend who travels, who is an investigator and who reported what he knew to the FBI, can be helpful in several areas, partirularly if he can do a little investigating for me as he gets around-and one at home in St. Pete. But first, I would like (and he should want this) to know all aboutx his report to the FBI. I will then ask for copies of this report. If it is not in the archive, we will have another case of suppression. If it ism we'll have another evaluation of the integrity-or lack of it-of the FBI "reporting". It will be enough to know his name and the proper names he mentioned. The date will also help but is not vital.

I haven't taken time to reall examine the patch-cord situation. One that I'd like right now is a very short one, with a female Japanese on the open end of one to plug into the Norelco cassette recorder so I can use my earphones without buying a special Norelco one. My only other needs are for dubbing. I now have one for patching the Norelco into my large Wollensak but I find that when I use it in the prescribed way, through the phono plug on the back of the W, the volume is inadequate and cannot understand why. Do not make a special trip, but when you are at your suppliers, if the 3" cheap boxes are available separately I'll like a couple of dozen. I fear shipping them and the empty spools for the damage will be too great. I still need spools for filing and eventually will need a number. I improvise as I go along. When I can get empty 8mm movie spools, they are adequate and often free. Some photo stores have them where they haven't thrown them away. Hastily, and with Thanks, sincerely,